EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM
HAWAI'I EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER



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DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE P.O. BOX 150 HONOLULU, HAWAI'I 96810-0150

## WRITTEN ONLY

TESTIMONY BY CRAIG K. HIRAI DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE ON SENATE BILL NO. 3280, S.D. 1, H.D. 1

> April 1, 2022 3:00 P.M. Room 308 and Videoconference

RELATING TO THE ISSUANCE OF SPECIAL PURPOSE REVENUE BONDS TO ASSIST SAINT JOSEPH SCHOOL.

The Department of Budget and Finance (the "Department") offers the following comments on Senate Bill No. 3280, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, which authorizes the issuance of Special Purpose Revenue Bonds (SPRB) to assist Saint Joseph School, a Hawaii nonprofit corporation, in planning, designing, constructing, reconstructing, renovating, acquiring, equipping, and improving educational facilities for Saint Joseph School pursuant to Part VIII, Chapter 39A, Hawaii Revised Statues. The amount of the authorization is unspecified.

The Department would like to inform the Legislature and prospective SPRB parties that should the legislation be approved, approval of the SPRB issuance and conduit loan will require further review of the financing proposal to ensure compliance with all federal, state and credit underwriting requirements. Additionally, the Department would like to note that House Bill No. 1829, H.D. 2, S.D. 1 and Senate Bill No. 2812 S.D. 2, H.D. 1, specifies that no SPRBs requiring an allocation of annual state ceiling under Section 39B-2 Hawaii Revised Statutes, shall be authorized after

June 30, 2022 and before December 31, 2028, unless requested by the Governor and approved by the Legislature. To permit the issuance of SPRBs authorized during this session, may we suggest an effective date of June 29, 2022 for Senate Bill No. 3280, S.D. 1, H.D. 1. For additional information, please consult our FAQ located at the following link: <a href="http://budget.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2012/11/SPRB-FAQ.pdf">http://budget.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2012/11/SPRB-FAQ.pdf</a>.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.

## The Thirty-First Legislature, State of Hawaii House of Representatives Committee on Finance

Testimony By
The Cardinal Legacy Foundation

April 1, 2022

## S.B. 3280, S.D. 1, H.D. 1 - RELATING TO THE ISSUANCE OF SPECIAL PURPOSE REVENUE BONDS TO ASSIST SAINT JOSEPH SCHOOL

The Cardinal Legacy Foundation, on behalf of St. Joseph School in Hilo, Hawaii appreciates the opportunity to testify in strong support of S.B. 3280 regarding the issuance of a special purpose revenue bond (SPRB) to assist our school.

St. Joseph's was founded in 1869 and is the only parochial school on the island of Hawaii. Faced with a declining student body and reduced revenues, a number of concerned alumni and parents working with the Catholic Diocese of Honolulu took steps to address our financial situation and put the school on a stronger financial path. The school has successfully increased enrollment and has undertaken several improvements to our physical plant to provide a stronger learning environment for our students and community.

It is our intention to use the proceeds of the SPRB to construct a multi-purpose gymnasium to replace our existing, outdated facility. This new facility would have an increased seating capacity and be designed for multipurpose use for both the school and community events. It is our hope and desire to offer our students and the Hilo community an enhanced facility which will have the additional impact of attracting more potential students to further boost our enrollment. The approval of a SPRB for this project will go a long way to making this a reality.

Your favorable consideration of S.B. 3280 is appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Perreira

Board member, Cardinal Legacy Foundation